(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering the report titled "State of World Population, 1993" in connection with the migrations acquiring crisis dimension; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and to what extent Government have implemented its recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Recommendations are broadly in consonance with the policies and ongoing programmes of the Government of India which *interalia* include provision of Family Welfare services; education & literacy programmes in rural areas; implementation of schemes for rural development; provision of services for the urban poor; investments for rural and urban areas development; promoting gender equality in access to assets and services; elimination of legal and cultural barriers to women's empowerment; strengthening of local institutions through decentralisation; involvement of non-governmental organisation; and promoting demographic research on migration.

These recommendations are addressed to the international community.

Agreement with Pharmaceutical Companies from Europe and US

2845. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:
SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pharmaceutical Companies from Europe and US have agreed to work together to facilitate early human effectiveness trials of combination drug therapies to fight AIDS and HIV infection;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof, country-wise;

(c) whether any Indian pharmaceutical company has been involved to work with them;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof stating the agreement held with US and Europe and the outcome thereof; and

(e) by when the work is likely to be started in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) It has been reported that a group of scientists have found that a combination of drugs can stop the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) from replicating its spread to other cells. This approach, known as Convergent Combination Therapy, aims at attacking the enzyme of the virus which is essential for its replication. Based on encouraging reports from laboratory studies, pharmaceutical companies in different countries are reported to have agreed to exchange information on drugs with the object of developing effective combination chemotherapy regimes.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Public Health Centres in Himachal Pradesh

2846. SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Public Health Centres (PHCs) in Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan and the number of Centres where a doctor has not been available for the last six months;

(b) the percentage of budget of Public Health Centres spent on salaries and the percentage spent on medicines and providing other facilities to the patients during the said period;

(c) the percentage of rural population which has been actually using the facility of PHCs; and

(d) whether Government have formulated any scheme to associate non-government voluntary associations, gram panchayats and women's organisations to revitalise the functioning of PHCs?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) There are 223 Primary Health Centres (PHCs) in Himachal Pradesh and 1413 in Rajasthan. As per the information received from the State Governments, 6 PHCs in Himachal Pradesh and 7 PHCs in Rajasthan are without Doctors in the last six months.

(b) The percentage of expenditure incurred

in Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan is as under :

	Himachal Pradesh	Rajasthan
Salaries	72.16%	84.05%
Medicines & other facilities.	27.84%	15.95%

(c) A sizeable percentage of the rural population is utilising the facilities in PHCs in Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan.

(d) The Governments of Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan are involving Voluntary Organisations and Women's groups in family welfare programmes.

Proposal for Medical College in Kucch, Gujarat

2847. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKAR DAVE :
SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received a proposal for opening a medical college in Kucch region in Gujarat State; and

(b) if so, decision taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

2848. *[Transferred to 20th August, 1993]*

New Anti-Pregnancy Bill, RU-486

2849. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new anti-pregnancy bill, RU-486 has been successfully tested for self-administered method of family planning and determination of pregnancy has been evolved and tested;

(b) if so, the details thereof and efficacy for adoption as a safe method of family planning and safety against side-effects; and

(c) whether it has been tested thoroughly; if so, the results thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c) Phase-II trials with RU-486 for termination of pregnancy have been completed by Indian Council of Medical Research which shows that RU-486 in combination with prostaglandian has a success rate of 89.6 to 94.5%. This combination is not self administerable. Phase-III trials are yet to commence. Research on its use as a contraceptive is still going on.

Discussions organised by the Heart Care Foundation on Smoking

2850. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE :
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Heart Care Foundation of India organised a public discussion on the ill-effect of smoking particularly passive smoking, and sent in a number of recommendations, including the one for banning of smoking in public places and transport systems;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's response thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A copy of the recommendations made by the Heart Care Foundation of India is annexed as Statement. (*See* below)

(c) The recommendations will be kept in view while formulating the anti-tobacco programme.

Statement

Recommendations from H. C. F. I. during a public discussion on 'Harmful Effects of Smoking' held on 23rd May, 1993.

1. Parliament should be declared a smoke free zone.

2. In public "Smokers Zones" should be defined and not 'non-smokers zones'.

3. Smoking should be banned in public places like Buses, Trains, Planes, Bus stops, Railway Platforms, Cinema houses etc.

4. Smoking should be banned in all health centres—clinics, Nursing Homes and Hospitals.